



PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 04208.0077-00

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
Makoto SHOZAKAI et al. ) Group Art Unit: 2626  
)  
Application No.: 09/380,563 ) Examiner: Armstrong, Angela A.  
)  
Filed: September 3, 1999 ) Confirmation No. 2773  
)  
For: SPEECH PROCESSING METHOD AND )  
APPARATUS FOR IMPROVING SPEECH )  
QUALITY AND SPEECH RECOGNITION )  
PERFORMANCE )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in Section 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final action, Quayle action, or a Notice of Allowance. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement includes a certification as specified by Section 1.97(e).

Each document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from the Japanese Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the mailing date of that communication.

Copies of the listed foreign documents are attached. English Abstracts of the non-English documents are enclosed.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the U.S. Patent Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

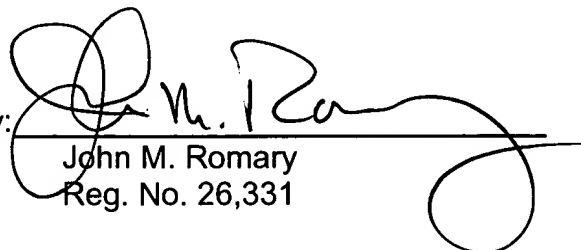
If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

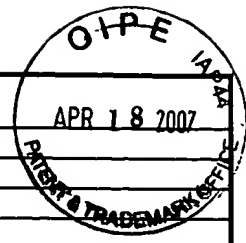
Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: April 18, 2007

By:

  
John M. Romary  
Reg. No. 26,331



<b>IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)			<b>Complete if Known</b>		
			Application Number	09/380,563	
			Filing Date	September 3, 1999	
			First Named Inventor	Makoto SHOZAKAI	
			Art Unit	2626	
			Examiner Name	Armstrong, Angela A.	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	04208.0077-00000

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation
		Country Code Number Kind Code (if known)				
		JP 2-244096	9/28/1990			Abstract
		JP 5-67244	3/19/1993			Abstract
		JP 63-18797	1/26/1988			Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation
		Japan Patent Office, Official Notice of Rejection regarding Japan Patent Application No. 9-056018, February 2, 2007.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.